



TO: The Student Senate of The University of Notre Dame du lac

FROM: Hunter Brooke, *Student Union Parliamentarian*, Madison Denchfield, *Deputy Student Union Parliamentarian*, and Matthew Amante, *Deputy Student Union Parliamentarian*

DATE: January 28, 2024, 6:10 PM

RE: SO2324-12, An Order to Amend Article XII of the Constitution

MEMORANDUM

The Committee on the Constitution has concluded its review of SO2324-12, an amendment to the Constitution of the Undergraduate Student Body to revise the timing of the mandatory run-off reelection debate as outlined in Article XII, and is prepared to present its findings and relevant recommendations to the Student Senate

Over the course of deliberation, the Committee initially sought to carefully understand the specific and technical problem outlined by SO2324-12. Once this potential issue was entirely understood, the Committee raised several points of discussion. First, the Committee considered whether any situation similar to the one corrected by the amendment had previously occurred, with the final conclusion being in the negative.

Second, the committee approved an amendment to the legislation, proposing that the language change include the fact that the debate occur before the beginning of the runoff reelection vote. This addition was introduced because the Committee felt that the original language of the amendment did not specify when the debate should take place, only that it not be required to take place on the upcoming Sunday. The proposal was adopted as a friendly amendment by the authors.

Before calling a final vote, the Committee engaged in debate regarding the potential merits of the proposed amendment. Multiple members of the Committee spoke favorably on the legislation, explaining how the change simply sought to clarify a flaw in the Constitution and further proactively address a potential issue.

Committee Recommendation: After thorough debate, the Committee has unanimously decided to recommend SO2324-12 be approved by the Student Senate. The Committee has concluded that the Constitution contradicts itself in Article XII Section 5(c) and that the proposed amendment would remedy this contradiction and therefore improve the functioning and Constitutionality of Student Union elections.

Respectfully submitted,

Hunter Brooke

Student Union Parliamentarian

Chair, Committee on the Constitution

Matthew Amante

Deputy Student Union Parliamentarian

Madison Denchfield

Deputy Student Union Parliamentarian
